

HOUSE RESOLUTION 191

By Cobb

A RESOLUTION to honor Linda C. Mathews upon the occasion of her induction into the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should honor those remarkable professionals who render valuable service to the Tennessee Walking Horse industry, one of the Volunteer State's largest and most successful enterprises in terms of agriculture, commerce, tourism, and equine sports; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration is the premier event for the Tennessee Walking Horse; spanning eleven days and nights prior to Labor Day and encompassing exciting competition, the Celebration annually awards more than \$650,000 in prize money and crowns the breed's World Grand Champion and some twenty World Champions; and

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2006, the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration (TWHNC) will be inducting twelve worthy individuals into the TWHNC Hall of Fame during a gala evening at Calsonic Arena on the Celebration grounds in Shelbyville, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the TWHNC Hall of Fame ceremony is held biennially to specially honor and recognize those sterling professionals who, "have made significant and outstanding contributions to the Walking Horse industry and the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration" during, "fifteen or more years involvement with the breed"; and

WHEREAS, the exemplary 2006 class of TWHNC Hall of Fame inductees most appropriately includes Linda C. Mathews, who served with acumen and alacrity as an employee of the Celebration for twenty-seven years, lending her considerable skills and talents to every department, except the Entry Office, until her well deserved retirement in March of 2005; and

WHEREAS, a Bedford County native, Linda Mathews grew up in the Wheel Community, graduated from Shelbyville Central High School, and attended various continuing education courses at Watkins Institute and Motlow Community College; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Mathews is an instrumental figure in the Family and Community Education Program in Bedford County and the Outreach Program at First United Methodist Church in Shelbyville; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Linda Mathews was chosen as one of only six artists from Tennessee to create an ornament for the Christmas tree in the Blue Room at the White House; she is an active member of the Embroiders Guild of America and the American Needlepoint Guild; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Mathews is deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavors to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, married to Neal Mathews, Linda Mathews is the proud mother of Tammy Brown, Paige Mathews, Michael Mathews, and Suzy Martin; she is the doting grandmother of five and great-grandmother of three; and

WHEREAS, for twenty-seven years, Mrs. Linda Mathews served with the utmost probity and integrity as an employee with the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration and performed her duties with singular ability; and

WHEREAS, by means of her induction into the TWHNC Hall of Fame, Linda Mathews has earned the ultimate accolade given by the Walking Horse industry, and we should pay homage to her accomplishment on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor Linda C. Mathews upon her induction into the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration Hall of Fame and commend her upon her consummate career spent in service to the Walking Horse industry and the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.